# **GRANITE HEDGE FUND**

OUALIFIED INVESTOR HEDGE FUND FACT SHEET AS AT 30 APRIL 2024



# **INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

The Coronation Granite Hedge Fund is managed as a long/short fixed income fund, investing in a diversified portfolio of securities, including derivative instruments, bonds and cash. The Coronation Granite Hedge Fund makes use of six core and distinct fixed income strategies, namely: Directional View Taking, Yield Curve Positioning, Corporate Credit Opportunities, Arbitrage Strategies, Quantitative and Relative Value Trades in the pursuit of producing consistent absolute returns independent of general market direction

The fund is expected to have low volatility with a very low correlation to the All Bond Index (ALBI). Investment decisions are driven by fundamental proprietary in-house research. The fund's target return is cash plus 3%. The objective is to achieve this return with low risk, providing attractive risk-adjusted returns through a low fund standard deviation.

The fund may make use of derivative instruments for efficient portfolio management purposes.

# **INVESTMENT PARAMETERS**

The Coronation Granite Hedge Fund may invest in international investments. The fund may use leverage but such leverage shall be limited to 5 (five) times. The fund is precluded from raising any debt funding over and above that achieved in terms of the long/short process. Value at risk is monitored on a daily basis and is subject to an internal limit of 6% at a 95% confidence level, and 10% at a 99% level. The maximum modified duration of the fund may not exceed that of the ALBI. The portfolio will have maximum credit exposure limits with reference to credit classification bands, determined in accordance with the fund's Credit Exposure Guidelines. Limits per issuer within each credit classification band exist and are monitored on a daily basis. No writing of uncovered options will be permitted. The fund employs stop-loss strategies to facilitate capital preservation. The intention is to invest the majority of the fund in liquid tradable securities that are listed on BESA or the JSE. The fund may invest in unitised vehicles, in particular money market investment and exposure to small capitalisation shares may be achieved in this way. Investment in derivatives is permitted for efficient investment management of the fund.

# **FUND RETURNS\***

	Fund	ALBI	FRODS
Since inception (cumulative)	591.2%	546.7%	307.9%
Since inception p.a.	9.4%	9.0%	6.7%
Latest 10 year p.a.	7.9%	7.8%	5.8%
Latest 5 year p.a.	7.3%	7.2%	5.4%
Latest 1 year	9.8%	6.8%	8.0%
Year to date	1.2%	(0.4)%	2.6%
Month	(1.1)%	1.4%	0.6%

\*Fund Returns since inception to 30 September 2023 are for the A class (the most expensive fee class prior to the A class being closed on 30 September 2023) and was calculated net of fees and net of fund expenses. Fund Returns from 1 October 2023 to date are for the Z class. Fund Returns for the Z class are calculated net of fund expenses and gross of investment management and performance fees. Investment management and performance fees are individually agreed with each Qualified Investor prior to investment and are levied outside of the fund. Each Qualified Investor receives a monthly report indicating performance net of their individual fees and expenses.

# PERFORMANCE & RISK STATISTICS (Since inception)\*

	Fund	ALBI	FRODS
Average Annual Return	9.2%	8.8%	6.6%
Highest Annual Return	17.3%	23.6%	12.3%
Lowest Annual Return	4.1%	(5.6)%	3.3%
Annualised Standard Deviation	1.8%	7.3%	0.6%
Downside Deviation	1.4%	5.2%	
Maximum Drawdown	(1.5)%	(9.8)%	
Sharpe Ratio	1.48	0.32	
Sortino Ratio	1.94	0.44	
% Positive Months	97.3%	69.5%	100.0%
Correlation (ALBI)	0.16		
99% Value at Risk (P&L %)	(0.3)%		

# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Investment Structure Limited liability en commandite partnership **Disclosed Partner** Coronation Management Company (RF) (Pty) Ltd

Inception Date 01 October 2002 Hedge Fund CIS launch date 01 October 2017 Year End 30 September

**Fund Category** South African Fixed Income Hedge Fund

**Target Return** Cash + 3%

Annual Management & Annual Management and Performance Fees are Performance Fees agreed and levied outside of the Fund.

0.17% (excluding management and performance Total Expense Ratio (TER)<sup>1</sup>

fees) 0.03%

Transaction Costs (TC)† Fund Size (R'Millions) ‡ R217.51 **Fund Status** Open NAV (per unit) 102.59 cents ZAR Base Currency **Dealing Frequency** Monthly

Income Distribution Annual (with all distributions reinvested)

Minimum Investment Notice Period

Coronation Alternative Investment Managers (Pty) Investment Manager

Ltd (FSP 49893)

Auditor KPMG Inc

**Prime Brokers** Absa Bank Ltd and FirstRand Bank Ltd

Custodian Nedbank Ltd

Administrator JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A., London Branch Nishan Maharaj, Adrian van Pallander, and Seamus Portfolio Managers

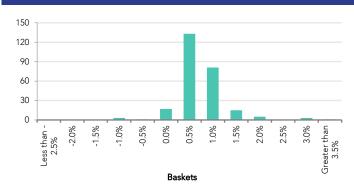
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 $^\dagger$ TER and TC data is provided for the 1 year ending 31 March 2024. TER excludes manufactured dividend expenses and scrip borrowing costs, in line with the revised ASISA TER Hedge Fund Disclosure Standard. <sup>‡</sup>Fund assets under management as at 30 April 2024.

#### **GROWTH OF R100m INVESTMENT\***



#### HISTOGRAM OF MONTHLY NET RETURNS



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# PORTFOLIO LIQUIDITY Days to Trade Long 13.1 Short 1.6

INCOME DISTRIBUTIONS (cents per unit)				
Declaration Date	Amount	Dividend	Interest	
30-Sep-23	11.42	0.00	11.42	

STRATEGY STATISTICS	
Number of long positions	48
Number of short positions	13

#### MONTHLY COMMENTARY

The Fund\* returned -1.1% in April, taking the one-year return to 9.8%. This places the Fund 1.8% ahead of cash over 12 months.

April dataflow was dominated by first quarter 2024 (Q1-24) economic growth readings, with the US, China and the euro area showing soft but positive quarter-on-quarter (q/q) growth. Inflation readings remained steady, with food prices declining but core inflation broadly sticky. Better-than-expected growth with persistent inflation remained a dominant theme. At the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) meeting in early May, the Federal Reserve Board (Fed) left the Fed funds rate unchanged at the 5.25%-5.50% target range. The FOMC statement noted strong economic activity, resilient labour markets and the low unemployment rate in the US as conditions that supported their ongoing tight monetary policy settings. The FOMC also cautioned that inflation remains elevated, and there has been limited progress towards reaching the 2.0% inflation target. Headline inflation rose to 3.5% year on year (y/y) in March from 3.2% y/y in February, while core inflation remained unchanged at 3.8% y/y – both well in excess of the c. 2% long-term target. The increase in inflation was driven by a rise in energy costs, shelter, and apparel, and was partly offset by the moderation in food prices.

In South Africa (SA), headline inflation eased to 5.3% y/y in March from 5.6% y/y in February, while core inflation slowed a little to 4.9% y/y from 5.0% y/y. The drop was driven by a moderation in food and fuel costs. Elsewhere, prices were generally soft, with modest gains in apparel, household services, restaurants, and hotels.

The significant reduction in rate cut expectations over the last quarter has tainted the enthusiasm for risk assets. Idiosyncratic SA factors have led to further underperformance of local assets relative to our emerging market peer group. Low growth, sticky inflation and burgeoning deficits will continue to weigh on the longer-term outlook for SA, unless reform implementation is accelerated through increased private sector participation.

The extreme swing in monetary policy expectations – or at least the sea-change in short-end interest rates in SA – seen over a few days in April flipped the implicit interest regime from one of a plateau in the policy rate with rate cuts anticipated to one of actually pricing out rate cuts altogether and even the modest potential for further hikes in SA. While it's doubtful whether this swing in market pricing was fully reflective of adjusted expectations, or mostly a function of an extreme squeeze on existing positions in the market, the end result was the same. A very quick and substantial move across SA's fixed income markets materialised – and Granite was fundamentally not positioned for this. Indeed, as SA's anticipated rate cutting cycle was progressively reduced in market pricing over March and April, the Fund accumulated a variety of positions that took the opposite view. Unfortunately, the extent of the distortion exceeded all reasonable parameters, given domestic dataflow and external developments. As such, the Fund experienced a meaningful drawdown over the course of the month. However, with clear evidence of stress in SA's domestic rates and solid conviction in our fundamental assessment, the Fund retained its considered active risk exposures. And while April bore the brunt of sticking to these views, this drawdown was entirely reversed (and more) in the first few days of May. A circuitous route indeed, but the Fund has ended up exactly where it was originally intended to be, with a fresh reminder that late-stage monetary policy cycles are always challenging.

\*The Fund return is net of expenses and gross of fees.

### REGULATORY DISCLOSURE AND DISCLAIMER

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